GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3001
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2000
OIL RESERVES IN WESTERN RAJASTHAN
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of Oil reserves have been found at Sanchor and Gulmalani on the border of Barmer and Jalore districts of Western Rajasthan:

(b) if so, whether this area was given to Shell for exploration and now they brought in a Dubai based Company call Karen as their partner;

(c) if so,the details thereof along with the details of work to be undertaken by each of the firms; and

(d) the time by which the production of oil is proposed to be commenced?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) Oil has been discovered in the exploration block RJ-ON-90/1 in Gudamalani in Barmer district of Rajasthan.

(b)&(c) Initially, the block RJ-ON-90/1 was contracted to M/s Shell India Production Development B.V.(SIPD), Netherlands. Since 22.12.1999, M/s Cairn Energy India Limited, with registered office in Australia, has been assigned 50% participating interest in the block and has become the Operator with the approval of the Government of India. Remaining 50% participating interest continues with SIPD.

Operator is carrying out 2D/3D seismic survey. About 1000 Line Kilometer of 2 D and 200 Square Kilometre of 3 D during the year 2000 are to be carried out. Based on the results of seismic surveys, drilling of one well is also planned during 2000-01.

(d): As the commercial viability of the discovery is yet to be established by the Operator, no time frame has been set up for start of production.